

ABSTRACT

The invention creates and reads digital business cards, forms, and stationery. In its capacity as *creator*, the invention digitizes contact information into a representation suitable for printing, or otherwise transferring, *to* business cards. More generally, the invention converts files created by any computer application into a digital representation especially suitable for printing, or otherwise transferring, *to* paper, cardboard, or alternate media. In its capacity as *reader*, the invention transfers such digitized representations *from* business cards, forms, or stationery *to* computer applications. Beneficial applications include the automated scanning of digital business cards into electronic address books and Personal Information Managers, as well as the automated transfer of application-specific forms from paper to online systems for filing and data processing.